

Now for mighty Boro' beams Lee

By John Davies

Bournemouth 1

Wycombe 2

WYCOMBE WANDERERS, the gallant amateurs who scared the life out of Bournemouth on Saturday, went one better when they sent the Third Division side crashing out of the F.A. Cup last night.

They fought back tigerishly after Bournemouth took a ninth minute lead with a goal from teenage winger Howard Goddard.

Then Wycombe took full advantage of the Bournemouth misfortune of losing goalkeeper Kevin Charlton with a shoulder injury in the second half. They pressured substitute John Wingate, normally a striker, from the restart.

Forward Tony Horseman got the equaliser in the 69th minute and four minutes later the winning goal came when defender Neil Merrick deflected a shot from Steve Perrin past the unfortunate Wingate.

Wycombe shared their celebration champagne with Bournemouth. Their manager Brian Lee, 38-year-old director of Bisham Abbey Sports Centre, said: "It was cruel on Bournemouth to lose their goalkeeper. But what a fantastic win for us and it has made a page of club history."

Respect

Wycombe become the second amateur club to reach the third round, the furthest they have been in the competition. Fellow Rothmans Isthmian Leaguers Leatherhead beat Colchester 1-0 on Saturday.

Wanderers' sensational win gives them a home tie against First Division Middlesbrough on January 4.

Lee said: "We shall obviously treat Middlesbrough with the greatest respect. We should not really stand any chance against them but on our own ground you never know what luck the Cup throws up."

Middlesbrough boss Jack Charlton had sent his assistant Harold Shepherdson to spy.

And it looked as though Bournemouth would be those opponents when 17-year-old Goddard dived to head home a cross from Alan Welsh.

The turning point was Charlton's injury, sustained in a collision with Mick Hollifield.

Wingate, although feeling strange in this unusual situation, managed to finger-tip a dangerous inswinging Wycombe corner round the post.

The load now fell on the Bournemouth defenders to try and shield the makeshift keeper.

But Wingate had very little chance to save the equalising shot from Horseman.

Then four minutes later the jubilant amateurs took the lead when Perrin's shot was deflected past Wingate by Merrick, son of the former England goalkeeper Gil Merrick.

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BOURNEMOUTH—Charlton: Payne, Parodi, Howard, Merrick, Hazen, Miller, Welsh, Goddard, Greenhalgh, Buttle. Sub.: Wingate.

WYCOMBE—Maskell: Birdseye, Hand, Mead, Phillips, Riardon, Perrins, Kennerly, Searle, Hollifield, Horseman. Sub.: Evans.